



WOODBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY
NELLIE MUIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Forging Partnership Between School & Public Library;

Through Bigfoot into Spring

KAREN DIAZ CARMONA
UW MLIS STUDENT
CAPSTONE 2024



ABOUT ME: KAREN DIAZ

SHE, HER, ELLA



1

PRESENT

Library/Media Specialist, Nellie Muir Elementary, Woodburn, OR.

MLIS Graduate Student, University of Washington.

2

LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

Latino Services Librarian/Children's Librarian, Newberg Public Library.

2019 -2021

3

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Pacific University | Woodburn, Oregon

Bachelor of Education, *ESOL Endorsement*. 2021

Educational Assistant, Edwards Elementary, Newberg, Oregon. 2017 - 2019

ABOUT THE SPONSOR



1

WOODBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Situated in downtown Woodburn, OR.
- Conveniently located across from City Hall, AWARE food pantry, city bus stop, restaurants, and small business shops.
- Adjacent to a small city park.

2

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Serves a population of 26,180 people.
- 56% of the population identifies as Hispanic/Latino.
- Most of the jobs in the area are agricultural.

3

FRONTLINE STAFF

- Library Manager
- Children's Librarian
- Teens Librarian
- Adult Services Librarians
- Outreach Librarian

INFORMATION PROBLEM

CONTEXT: DRAWING

THE TARGET AUDIENCE

Despite their efforts to connect with families of young children through outstanding programs throughout the year, the library faces challenges in drawing the expected crowd. This struggle has led to a noticeable decline in foot traffic, specially post COVID-19, indicating a need for enhanced outreach strategies to better connect with the community.

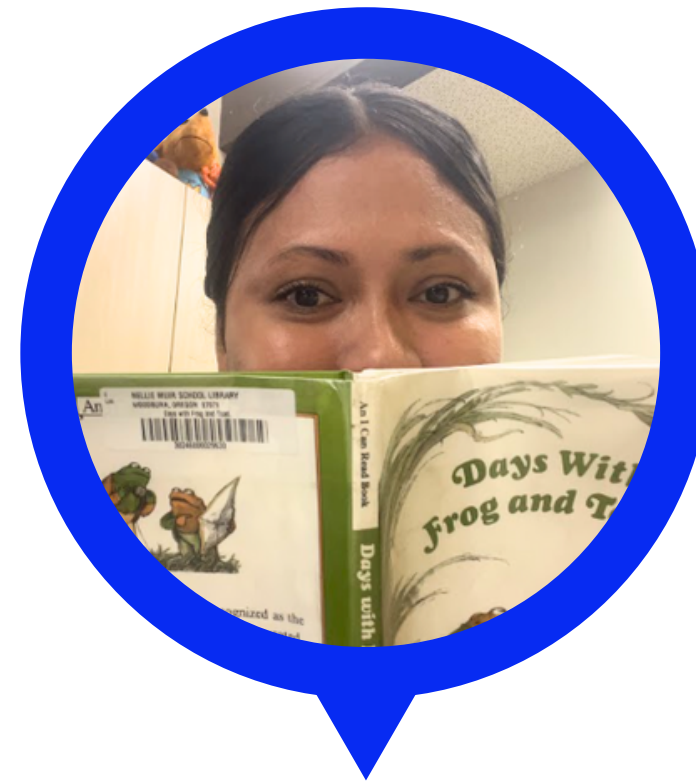


Key Project Insights



Woodburn Public Library

NEEDS HELP BOOSTING THE PARTICIPATION OF ELEMENTARY STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES



SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

POSITIONED IN THE RIGHT PLACE TO HELP BRIDGE THE GAP.



Nellie Muir Elementary

TRUSTED INSTITUTION THAT WORKS CLOSELY WITH STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

DISTRICT STRATEGIC VALUES & GOALS

"Participate in community and school partnerships and actively seek ways for students, families, and district staff to be involved."



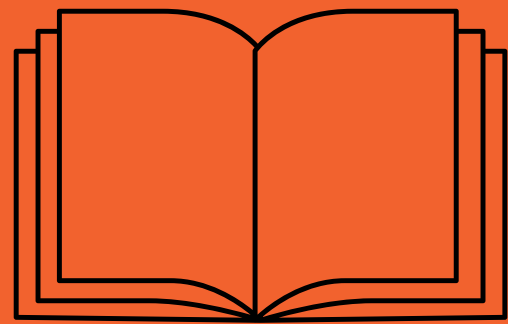


FUNDING STRATEGY

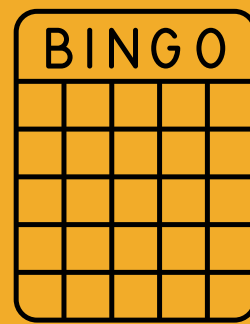
with approval from the school administrator, as it aligned with one of the districts strategic goals, funding for this program was sourced from dedicated library allocations provided by the District. Students completing their first bingo card received complimentary books, purchased using a blend of allocated funds and Scholastic Dollars earned from Scholastic Book fairs, which were also utilized to acquire prizes and additional reading materials.

Oscar Belanger
School Principal
Nellie Muir Elementary

Thank you Mr. Belanger!



SUMMER



READING



PROGRAM

Replicating a successful library program but in **Spring**



"Forging partnership between school and public Library to boost participation through Bigfoot into Spring, and elementary reading program."

Project Objective



Project Overview



SCAN ME TO
WATCH THE
PROMOTIONAL
VIDEO!



APPROACH TO SOLUTION USING BINGO CARDS!

- Carefully designed bingo cards
- Bingo achievement linked to completion of a public library activity
- Chance to explore diverse programs offered at the public library
- Opportunity for interaction with library staff
- Utilization of submitted bingo cards for data collection purposes

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS | WOODBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY

"BIGFOOT" INTO SPRING

NELLIE MUIR ELEMENTARY & WOODBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESENT:

"BIGFOOT" INTO SPRING

ELEMENTARY READING PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 1, 2024 - APRIL 5, 2024

COMPLETE FIVE IN A ROW. BINGO!

Read in a cozy place	Read a book that takes place in Spring	Go to a story time	Search/find the library's "Big Foot" reading mascot	Read for 20 minutes
How many green things can you find in the Children's Library? Count and write the number in the box: <input type="text"/>	Draw your favorite part from a book you've recently read and show your classroom teacher.	Check out anything from the library, but a book!	Read while enjoying a healthy snack	Read for 20 minutes
Design a bookmark based on a book you've read and show Mrs. Diaz	Show your library card to a librarian. Don't have a card? Apply to get one!	Read a book about an important woman in history	Get a sticker at the Children's Desk	Visit the Bookmobile at Miranda's Bakery <small>see the event schedule on the back</small>
Go to a Spanish story time <small>see the event schedule on the back</small>	Read for 20 minutes	FREE READING CHOICE	Attend a "Crafts for kids" program at the Woodburn Public Library! <small>see the event schedule on the back</small>	Read for 20 minutes
Search & find the library's "Bigfoot" reading mascot	Attend an Afterschool Adventures program at the Woodburn Public Library! <small>see the event schedule on the back</small>	Write a poem inspired by a book you've read	Read for 20 minutes	Check out a book that has won an award
Read for 20 minutes	Read in your pajamas	Play a board game in the Children's Library or play a game on the computers	Listen to a book or read a book aloud to a younger sibling or family member	Get an autograph from a librarian at the Woodburn Public Library

COMPLETE FIVE IN A ROW. BINGO!

Squares with a star require you to visit the Woodburn Public Library and get your bingo card stamped

RESULTS

109%

**Surpassed the initial goal of 100
after school library visits by 9
within the span of two months!**



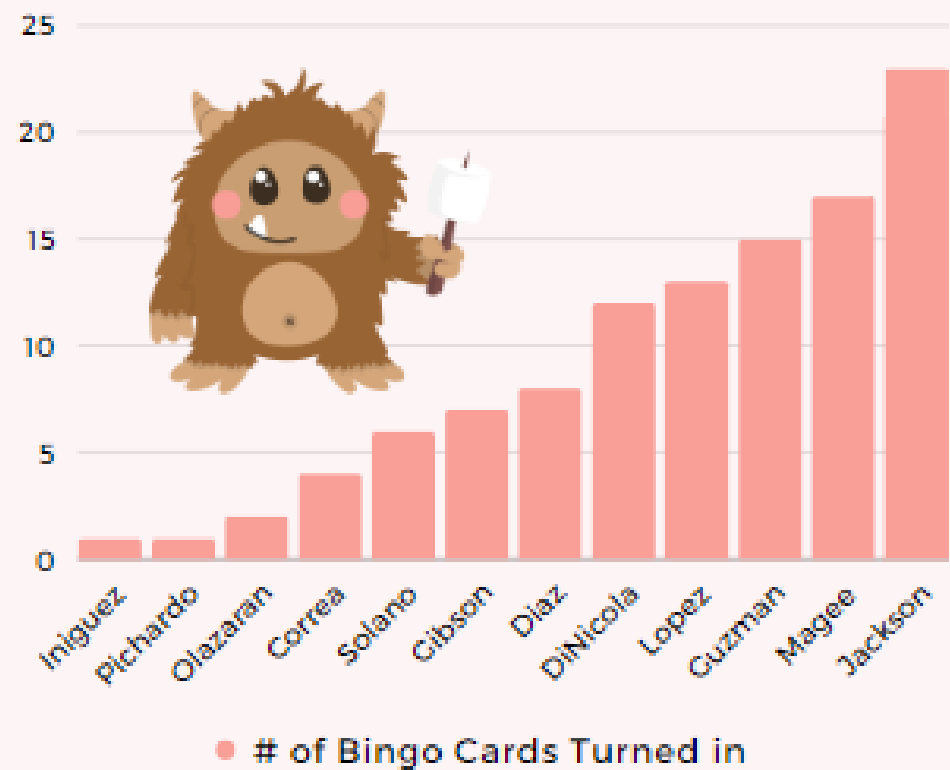
EVALUATION OF PROJECT EXPERIENCE



- **Increased community engagement**
- Inclusive design
- **Strengthened connection with target audience**
- Developed a sustainable partnership through innovative approach
- **Schools play a significant role in fostering student and family engagement beyond the classroom.**

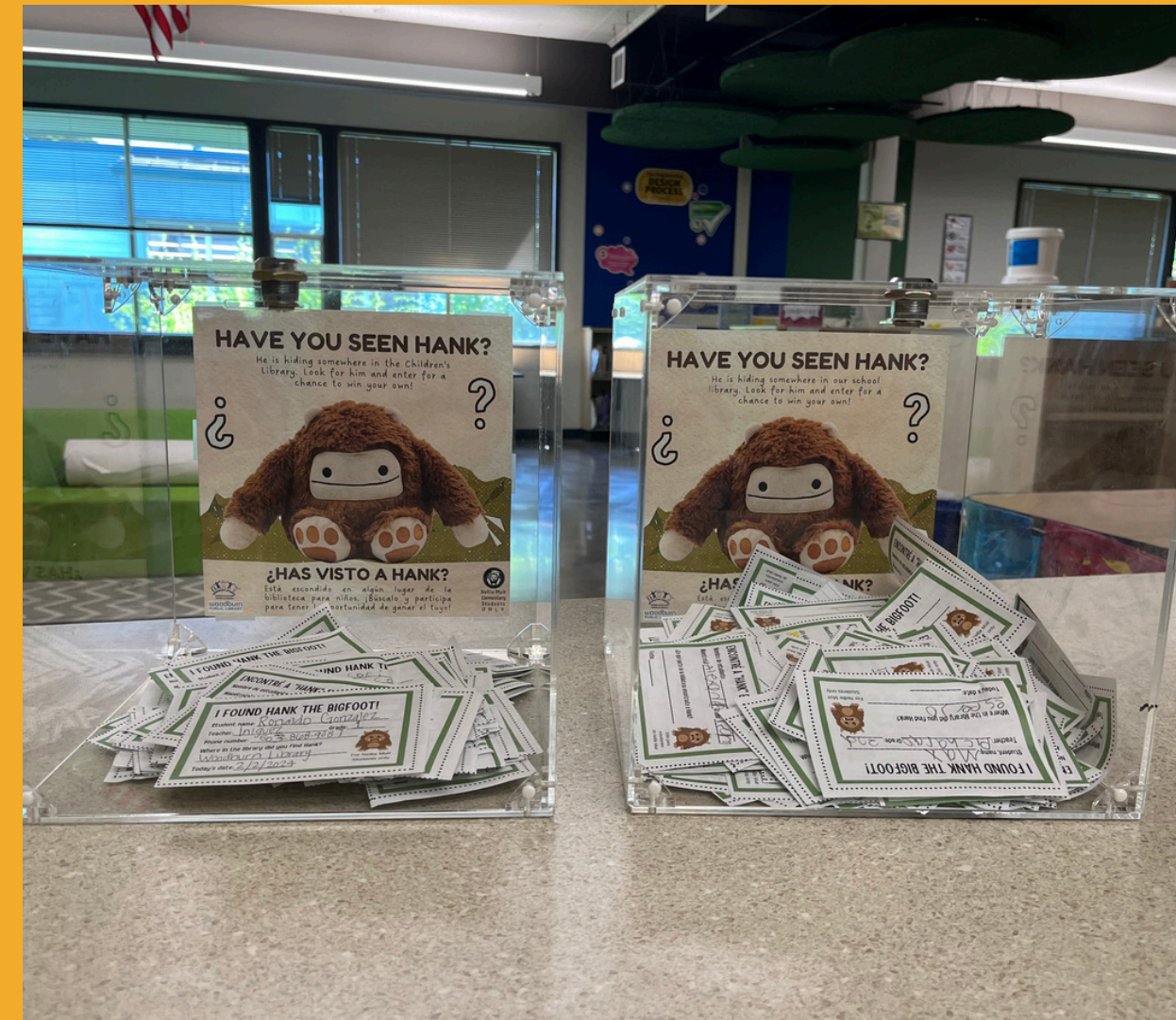
BIGFOOT INTO SPRING

Top Homerooms



INCREASED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Bigfoot into Spring sparked widespread involvement: students, families, and school staff. Teachers were pivotal in motivating participation within their classrooms.
- The program's participatory approach engaged students in planning bingo activities, fostering collaboration and ownership.



INCLUSIVE DESIGN

- Bigfoot into Spring prioritizes Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) through its design, providing materials in multiple languages for linguistic equity.
- Acknowledging transportation barriers through a passive option within the school to ensure all students can participate, fostering inclusivity and community engagement.

READING MASCOT

Hank the Bigfoot Scavenger Hunt

SCHOOL
LIBRARY

PUBLIC
LIBRARY

INCLUDE
PASSIVE
PROGRAM





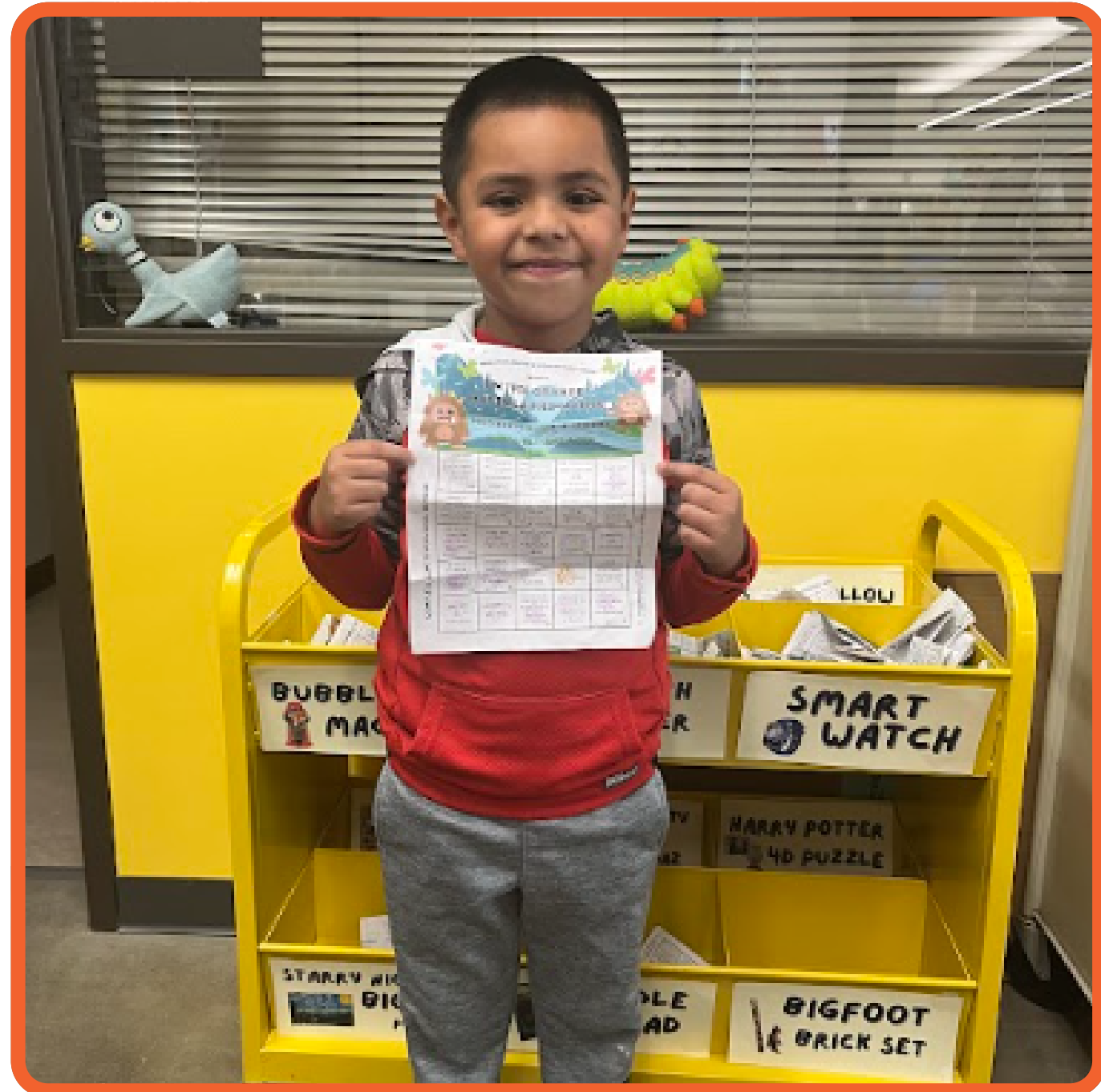
STRENGTHENED CONNECTION WITH TARGET AUDIENCE

- Bigfoot into Spring featured engaging activities that promoted interaction with library staff, allowing patrons to explore the services and programs offered. Ultimately fostering trust and This cultivates a welcoming atmosphere where community members feel supported and empowered.
- One beloved activity involved collecting autographs from librarians and asking for a book recommendation.



SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INNOVATIVE APPROACH

- Collaboration between the school librarian, administrators, and public library led to a successful program partnership, adapting a summer reading program for elementary students in the Spring.
- Hosted in both school and public libraries, it addressed the challenge of engaging younger readers year-round, promoting literacy, and setting a positive example for similar initiatives. Win-win for all!



NEXT STEPS...

- Review feedback provided by the sponsor
- Compile all created documents into a toolkit
- Distribute the toolkit to other school libraries in the district for reference
- Submit the toolkit to the public library for reference
- Begin planning for next year; my students are already inquiring!

SCHOOL **Classrooms**

District strategic goal

librarian

Hank the Bigfoot

Inclusive design

Reading Mascot

Families

Admin

support

Staff

Fun prizes

Students

Teacher

Allocated funds

Engaging activities

COLLABORATION

